



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: NE113

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Nemaha and Richardson Counties, Nebraska
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position: Auburn, Nebraska 68305
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice
Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)
Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☒ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area
Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)
Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☒ Beef Cattle
- ☒ Dairy Cattle
- ☒ Swine
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminant
- ☒ Other : Equine

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)
Employer: _____ Position Title: _____
Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☐ Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The objectives of the veterinarian filling the shortage situation in this area would be to assist in maintaining and improving animal welfare; maintaining the health of animals that contribute to an abundant, wholesome food supply; and maintaining and improving the veterinarian to food animal ratio. Further objectives would be to provide continuity for existing clientele and to fulfill the obligations of regulatory medicine for the State and Federal Governments. In addition, the state hopes to mitigate the vulnerability to emerging animal diseases by maintaining an appropriate veterinarian to animal ratio in this area.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

This veterinarian would become a skilled veterinary practitioner as well as increase the consulting time with clients. This veterinarian would also assist in improving the response time to clients and animal emergencies in a practice area with a high concentration of animals. The activities of this veterinarian will assist in developing and maintaining a community of sustainable food animal producers. In addition, an existing practice in this area services two sale barns on a weekly basis and often is called to assist with another sale barn in the surrounding area. Opportunities also exist to offer specialized services to clients such as artificial insemination and heifer development. This existing practice currently services 50 percent large animals, but with the additional veterinary staff could service 80 percent large animals.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Previous efforts to recruit recent graduates to join the practice as an associate were successful but the ability to retain these veterinarians in this shortage situation were unsuccessful due to concerns that the income potential for the food animal practitioners in this area is not competitive with other professional endeavors, particularly when considering the amount of educational debt that needs to be serviced. Opportunities are possible for associates to buy into an existing practice once some experience and clientele has been established.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

With several doctors in Southeast Nebraska at or approaching retirement, it is believed many communities will experience a void in veterinary services. Therefore, without this veterinary position being secured, the area will continue to be underserved. This poor food animal to veterinarian ratio could adversely affect the welfare of food animals and negatively impact our safe, abundant food supply. Without adequate veterinarian expertise in this area, the state would lose the necessary skills that: educate current and future producers on how to manage their animals; give producers the knowledge that allows them to better care for their livestock; helps ensure a rapid response in the event of an animal disease situation; and continues to ensure safe and affordable animal products that feed the world population.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

NA for 2011 round

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dr. Dennis Hughes

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Email: Dennis.hughes@nebraska.gov

Telephone Number: 402-471-2351 or 800-572-2437
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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